

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BELFAS 00085 141602Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-15 /071 W
-----142002Z 025242 /47

R 141519Z MAR 77
FM AMCONSUL BELFAST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1606
INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USNAVCOMMSTA LONDON DERRY

UNCLAS BELFAST 085

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, UK, EI
SUBJECT: TERRORISM: UVF MEN CONVICTED AND SENTENCED

REF: BELFAST 76

1. TWENTY SIX OF 28 DEFENDANTS, ALL MEMBERS OF ULSTER VOLUNTEER FORCE (UVF) WERE CONVICTED FOR TERRORIST OFFENSES AND GIVEN SENTENCES TOTALLING NEARLY 700 YEARS AT CONCLUSION MASS TRIAL IN BELFAST COURT MARCH 11. EIGHT RECEIVED LIFE SENTENCES FOR MULTIPLE MURDER AND TWO WERE ACQUITTED. ONE SUCCEEDED IN HAVING INCRIMINATING STATEMENT WITHDRAWN BY JUDGE ON GROUNDS THAT HE HAD GIVEN IT UNDER DURESS (REFTEL) BUT COURT RULED AGAINST OTHER DEFENCE ALLEGATIONS OF MISTREATMENT BY POLICE. POLICE HAD KEPT CAREFUL RECORDS OF ALL INTERROGATION SESSIONS AND MEDICAL TESTIMONY DID NOT RPT NOT SUSTAIN ALLEGATIONS.

2. TRIAL CONDUCTED BY JUDGE WITHOUT JURY LASTED 76 DAYS AND COST 2 MILLION POUNDS STERLING. IT WAS COSTLIEST AND LONGEST IN HISTORY OF NORTHERN IRELAND. ARRESTS AND TRIAL FOLLOWED DEFECTION OF UVF MAN IN CARRICKFERGUS IN LATE
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AUGUST 1975 WHO INITIALLY IMPLICATED MOST "OFFICERS" OF EAST ANTRIM UVF "BRIGADE". IT EXPECTED UVF MEN WILL RECEIVE SPECIAL CATEGORY STATUS IN PRISON SINCE CRIMES PRE-DATED MARCH 1976 DEADLINE.

SPICER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ATROCITIES, TERRORISTS, COURT DECISIONS, POLICE INVESTIGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 14-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BELFAS00085
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770087-0554
Format: TEL
From: BELFAST
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770364/aaaacefk.tel
Line Count: 61
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Message ID: 0f8624b9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 BELFAST 76
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30-Sep-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3122773
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TERRORISM: UVF MEN CONVICTED AND SENTENCED
TAGS: PINT, UK, EI, ULSTER VOLUNTEER FORCE, UVF
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/0f8624b9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009